



NEWS RELEASE

December 2, 2010

Manila City Schools Receive English Teaching Materials Worth Over 218 Thousand Pesos

At a ceremony held at the U.S. Embassy on December 1, the Embassy turned over \$4,959.00 (218,196 pesos) worth of U.S. State Department-produced English teaching materials to school principals representing 103 public elementary and high schools in Manila. U.S. Ambassador Harry K. Thomas, Jr. participated in the event along with Mr. Reynaldo D. Laguda, Assistant Secretary, Department of Education; Dr. Ponciano A. Menguito, Superintendent, Division of City Schools, Manila; and Jakarta-based State Department Regional English Language Officer George Scholz.

Both the Ambassador and Mr. Scholz noted that the U.S. partnership with the Philippines for English education is more than 100 years old. "The U.S. Government and the American people have always been committed to helping the Filipino people become globally connected by sharing with you both human and material resources to help you become proficient in English -- from the Thomasites to the Peace Corps Volunteers, to English Language Fellows and Specialists," said Ambassador Thomas.

The gift pack for each school contains books, back issues of English Teaching Forum magazine, educational photos, DVDs, and an instructional CD. The materials are designed to help the teachers acquire additional knowledge and strategies for becoming better English-language teachers so that their students develop stronger aptitude, competence, and fluency in English.

"The reading materials and books we have received will give a great boost in our effort to improve our English proficiency program in our public schools," said Dr. Menguito.

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